

## Love at a Distance

It's a hot summer day as you glance through the glaze of the Parisian sun. Your eyes meet under the Eiffel Tower and instantly the connection is unbreakable. You begin to engage in conversation and share a romantic chocolate crêpe during your walk home. Months later you date endlessly, fall in love, marry and have children - the end.

Like all love potions and legends, most people tend to believe and create such fairytales. If only this were true, mon amour, then Cupid would in fact be real.

Just because two people are in love doesn't necessarily mean they are together all the time; especially on Valentine's Day. Therefore you are not alone; even on the most romantic day of the year. While each couple has different and unique reasons for living apart, dealing with the distance can add unwanted stress, causing the relationship to unfortunately fall apart.

Since French is the language of love, then how can we disagree with its many love aphorisms? Until a bible for couples on French love-proverbs is created, people need to focus on the more positive aspects; not only about relationships but also about life in general. With so much to value in a long distance love affair, one of the most powerful attributes is that distance makes the heart grow fonder. And not to mention having "A ton of patience and a sense of adventure," explains Stacey Wacknov from Brooklyn, NY, as she awaits her fiancé, Steven Gross, who lives in Cardiff.

For millions of years, people have had successful long distance love affairs. Some waited for bottles at sea or walked miles on foot as others waited for a horse and buggy with a message from their long lost love.

Luckily today, you don't have to trudge through thick and thin to see your loved one. Technology has come a long way when factoring the distance that is forced on most couples. With the up rise in traveling as a career and Internet dating, a long distance romance is no longer unrealistic.

"It can feel like a big risk, especially at the start. That

# Correspondent

indefinable spark between us, whether it comes from first impressions or just appears from nowhere, helps. Obviously, modern technology allows almost constant communication between meetings, but that isn't really the same. Frequent flyer memberships and a credit card definitely help!" says Gross.

Therefore, there is no excuse not to fall in love; only with whom to fall in love. All relationships require work, some more than others. The key to any relationship really is the belief that nothing is impossible. With that mindset, anything can

happen no matter how far away that person really is.

"Sometimes it is just a bizarre coincidence that brings two people together at the right time and place. It can't be predicted or repeated," says Gross.

So this Valentine's Day, perhaps you can plan a dinner via webcam or spend hours on the phone if you can't jump on a plane or in a car. No matter the distance, it's all about what you make of it - if you go the extra mile.

## **Online ::**

**Forum :** Long Distance Love / L'amour à distance

**This article in full** (English and French)

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